WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into an external storage medium;

a connector for detachably connecting the external storage medium to the external storage medium interface;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part;

a detector for detecting detachment and attachment of the external storage medium from and to the connector; and

a controller for suspending a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the detachment of the external storage medium from the connector, and for resuming the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the attachment of the external storage medium to the connector.

2. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein the power supply from the power supply part is suspended and resumed under control of the controller to at least one of the following: all the components supplied with power from the power supply part except for the detector and the controller; the external storage medium interface; the connector; and the external storage medium.

3. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein the controller suspends the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects

that the external storage medium starts being detached from the connector while the external storage medium is still connected.

4. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein the controller suspends the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the external storage medium is completely detached from the connector and the external storage medium is disconnected.

5. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein the controller resumes the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the external storage medium is completely attached to the connector and the external storage medium is connected.

6. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein the controller resumes the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the external storage medium starts being attached to the connector while the external storage medium is not connected yet.

7. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the detachment and attachment of the external storage medium by detecting that the external storage medium is removed from and inserted into the chamber.

8. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a chamber mechanism for discharging the external storage medium from the chamber and receiving the external storage medium into the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the detachment and attachment of the external storage medium by detecting operations of the chamber mechanism.

9. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a lid of the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the detachment and attachment of the external storage medium by detecting that the lid is opened and closed.

Subb2 10. The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time while the detector does not detect the attachment of the external storage medium.

11. An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

a connector for detachably connecting to an external storage medium;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into the external storage medium through the connector;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part;

a detector for detecting operations relating to detachment and attachment of the external storage medium from and to the connector; and

a controller for suspending a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the operation relating to the detachment of the external storage medium from the connector, and for resuming the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the attachment of the external storage medium to the connector.

12. The electronic camera as defined in claim 11, wherein the power supply from the power supply part is suspended and resumed under control of the controller to at least one of the following: all the components supplied with power from the power supply part except for the detector and the controller; the external storage medium interface; the connector; and the external storage medium.

13. The electronic camera as defined in claim 11, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a chamber mechanism for discharging the external storage medium from the chamber and receiving the external storage medium into the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the operations relating to the detachment and attachment of the external storage medium by detecting operations of the chamber mechanism.

14. The electronic camera as defined in claim 11, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a lid of the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the operations relating to the detachment and attachment of the external storage medium by detecting that the lid is opened and

closed.

15. The electronic camera as defined in claim 11, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time while the detector does not detect the attachment of the external storage medium.

16. An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

a connector for detachably connecting to an external storage medium;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into the external storage medium through the connector;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part;

a detector for detecting operations relating to detachment and attachment of the external storage medium from and to the connector; and

a controller for suspending a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the operation relating to the detachment of the external storage medium from the connector, and for resuming the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the operation relating to the attachment of the external storage medium to the connector.

17. The electronic camera as defined in claim 16, wherein the power supply from the power supply part is suspended and resumed under control of the controller to at least one of the following: all the components supplied with power from the power supply part except for the detector and the controller; the

external storage medium interface; the connector; and the external storage medium.

Sub a5 18. The electronic camera as defined in claim 16, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a chamber mechanism for discharging the external storage medium from the chamber and receiving the external storage medium into the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the operations relating to the detachment and attachment of the external storage medium by detecting operations of the chamber mechanism.

19. The electronic camera as defined in claim 16, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a lid of the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the operations relating to the detachment and attachment of the external storage medium by detecting that the lid is opened and closed.

Sub a6 20. The electronic camera as defined in claim 16, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time while the detector does not detect the attachment of the external storage medium.